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**STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 3.73(b)**Applicant/Patent Owner: AMEI Technologies Inc.Application No./Patent No.: 10/712,574 Filed/Issue Date: Nov. 13, 2003Entitled: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR MAINTAINING BONES IN A HEALING POSITIONAMEI Technologies Inc., a Delaware Corporation

(Name of Assignee)

(Type of Assignee, e.g., corporation, partnership, university, government agency, etc.)

states that it is:

1. ☒ the assignee of the entire right, title, and interest; or2. ☐ an assignee of less than the entire right, title and interest.The extent (by percentage) of its ownership interest is \_\_\_\_\_ %  
in the patent application/patent identified above by virtue of either:A. [☒] An assignment from the inventor(s) of the patent application/patent identified above. The assignment was recorded in the United States Patent and Trademark Office at Reel \_\_\_\_\_, Frame \_\_\_\_\_, or for which a copy thereof is attached.**OR**B. [☐] A chain of title from the inventor(s), of the patent application/patent identified above, to the current assignee as shown below:

1. From: \_\_\_\_\_ To: \_\_\_\_\_

The document was recorded in the United States Patent and Trademark Office at  
Reel \_\_\_\_\_, Frame \_\_\_\_\_, or for which a copy thereof is attached.

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Reel \_\_\_\_\_, Frame \_\_\_\_\_, or for which a copy thereof is attached.[☐] Additional documents in the chain of title are listed on a supplemental sheet.[☒] Copies of assignments or other documents in the chain of title are attached.

(NOTE: A separate copy (i.e., the original assignment document or a true copy of the original document) must be submitted to Assignment Division in accordance with 37 CFR Part 3, if the assignment is to be recorded in the records of the USPTO. See MPEP 302.08]

The undersigned (whose title is supplied below) is authorized to act on behalf of the assignee.

3/16/2004

Date

214-978-3040

Telephone number

William D. McSpadden

Typed or printed name

William D. McSpadden

Signature

AMEI Technologies Inc.

Title

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 3.73(b). The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.

ASSIGNMENT

COPY

WHEREAS, I, the undersigned joint inventor of residence as listed, have invented certain new and useful improvements as below entitled, for which application for United States Letters Patent is made, having executed said assignment on the date set forth below; and

WHEREAS, AMEI Technologies Inc. (hereinafter referred to as "Assignee"), a Delaware corporation, with its principal address at 1105 North Market Street, Suite 1300, Wilmington, DE 19899 desires to acquire my entire right, title and interest in and to the invention, and in and to the said application and any Letters Patent that may issue thereon;

NOW, THEREFORE, for good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged, I assign to Assignee, all right, title and interest in and to the said invention and in and to the said application and all patents which may be granted therefor, and all divisions, reissues, continuations, continuations-in-part and extensions thereof; and I authorize and request the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks to issue all patents for said invention, or patents resulting therefrom, insofar as my interests are concerned, to Assignee.

I also assign to Assignee, all right, title and interest in and to the invention disclosed in said application throughout the world, including the right to file applications and obtain patents, utility models, industrial models and designs for said invention in its own name throughout the world, including all rights to publish cautionary notices reserving ownership of said invention and all rights to register said invention in appropriate registries; and I further agree to execute any and all powers of attorney, applications, assignments, declarations, affidavits, and any other papers in connection therewith necessary to perfect such right, title and interest in Assignee.

I will communicate to Assignee any facts known to me respecting any improvements; and, at the expense of Assignee, I will testify in any legal proceedings, sign all lawful papers, execute all divisional, continuation, continuation-in-part, reissue and substitute applications, make lawful oaths and declarations, and generally do everything possible to vest title in Assignee and to aid Assignee to obtain and enforce proper protection for said invention in all countries.

This Assignment shall be binding on the party's successors, assigns and legal representatives.

Title of Invention:

*Apparatus And Method For Maintaining  
Bones In A Healing Position*

Signature of Joint Inventor:

Inventor's Name:

*David S. Ruch*  
David S. Ruch

Residence (City, County, State)

Winston-Salem, Forsyth County, North Carolina

Date:

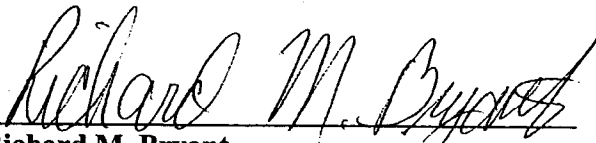
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2  
ASSIGNMENT

Title of Invention:

*Apparatus And Method For Maintaining  
Bones In A Healing Position*

Signature of Joint Inventor:  
Inventor's Name:

  
Richard M. Bryant

Residence (City, County, State)

Clemmons, Forsyth County, North Carolina

Date:

12/5/03